

## II. Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0004] with the following amended paragraph:

[0004] Therefore, what is needed is a cost-effective and efficient system and method for ~~removing the~~ preventing the formation of hydrates ~~from~~ in the pipeline.

Please replace paragraph [0016] with the following amended paragraph:

[0016] It can be appreciated that this evacuation of the production fluid from the space 20 and the tubing 18 significantly reduces the static head and fluid pressure in the space and the tubing. This lowers the ~~temperature of the fluid in the pipe to a value below the~~ above-mentioned threshold temperature below that of the production fluid from the well and thus prevents the formation of, and thus causes melting of the hydrates by the heat in the fluid and the surroundings, and the elimination of any blockage in the pipe 10 as discussed in paragraphs 2 and 3 above.